

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-04 USSS-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10

OMB-01 /060 W

----- 022977

O R 141440Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3079

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USCINCEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0042

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ET

SUBJECT: SIT REP

1. ON 11 OR 12 JAN, 3 ERITREANS WERE KIDNAPPED, REPORTEDLY BY THE ELF. THEIR NAMES ARE RUSSOM GHEBREMICAEL, LAWYER; TEKLE DANGISH, AND TEKLE (LAST NAME UNKNOWN). THE 3 HAD REPORTEDLY COLLABORATED WITH ETH GOVT.

2. USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE REPORTS THAT 50 ETHIOPIAN NAVAL PERSONNEL HAVE DEFECTED TO ELF/PLF OVER PAST 3 WEEKS. COMMENT: THE TREND IS DEFINITE EVEN THOUGH NUMBER MAY BE A LITTLE HIGH.

3. GEN GOITOM GHEBREZGHI, ERITREAN POLICE COMMISSIONER, LEFT HIS OFFICE AT APPROX 1645 ON 13 JAN, AND WAS SEEN AT 1800 SAME AFTER-NOON MEETING WITH ELF IN ADI GEBRAY, 10-15 KMS SW OF ASSMARA. CONGEN AND VISITING PAO FROM ADDIS HAD PAID CALL AT 1600 HRS 13 JAN ON GEN GOITOM TO DISCUSS USIS BOMBING. GEN GOITOM
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APPEARED VERY NERVOUS AND SHAKEN. PAO HAD EARLIER MEETING WITH

DIRG MEMBER TO DISCUSS SECURITY. IT IS POSSIBLE GEN GOITOM HAD BEEN REPRIMANDED BY DIRG. REPORT AT 1730 HRS, 14 JAN INDICATES GEN GOITOM HAS DEFECTED TO ELF, AND COL HABTEMARIAM HAS BEEN NAMED ACTING COMMISSIONER.

4. ON EVENING OF 13 JAN A SECOND ATTEMPT WAS MADE ON LIFE OF AN ATO ZELEKE, A LOCAL AMHARAN BUSINESSMAN. ZELEKE DIED IN THE HOSPITAL THIS AFTERNOON. HE HAD SPOKEN OUT AGAINST ELF/PLF IN THE PAST.
PERRY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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